

# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

**TRANSLATION**  
**PCT**

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

To:

Date of mailing **See form PCT/ISA/210**  
(day/month/year)

Applicant's or agent's file reference

**068PCT 0087**

**FOR FURTHER ACTION**

See paragraph 2 below

International application No.

**PCT/DE2006/000115**

International filing date (day/month/year)

**18.01.2006**

Priority date (day/month/year)

**14.09.2005**

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC

**B62K5/08, A61G5/04**

Applicant

**LIPPERT, Stefan**

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☐ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. **FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/EP	Date of completion of this opinion	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.		Telephone No.

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Box No. I

Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
  - ☒ the international application in the language in which it was filed
  - ☐ the translation of the international application into \_\_\_\_\_, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (Rule 12.3(a) and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
  - a. type of material
    - ☐ a sequence listing
    - ☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
  - b. format of material
    - ☐ on paper
    - ☐ in electronic form
  - c. time of filing/furnishing
    - ☐ contained in the international application as filed
    - ☐ filed together with the international application in electronic form
    - ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

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Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement		
1. Statement			
Novelty (N)	Claims	<u>1-15</u>	YES
	Claims	_____	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	<u>1-15</u>	YES
	Claims	_____	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	<u>1-15</u>	YES
	Claims	_____	NO
2. Citations and explanations:			
1 Reference is made to the following documents:			
D1: WO 03/103367 A (INVACARE CORPORATION; RICHEY, JOSEPH B.II; GOERTZEN, GERALD; HUHNDORFF) 18 December 2003			
D2: PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN Vol. 2003, No. 12, 5 December 2003 & JP 2005 001469 A (ATEX CO LTD) 6 January 2005			
D3: US 5 547 038 A (MADWED ET AL.) 20 August 1996			
2 Document D1 is considered the closest prior art. It discloses:			
a vehicle for disabled individuals, with at least one steerable front wheel and two steerable rear wheels which are each held individually on a frame by means of a wheel suspension means,			
from which the subject matter of independent claim 1 differs in that there is a separate, controllable steering drive for each rear wheel.			
2.1 It is therefore the object of the invention to increase the flexibility of the use of vehicles for			

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Box No. V

Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(I) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;  
citations and explanations supporting such statement

disabled individuals.

According to the invention, this object is achieved by a vehicle which has the features of claim 1. By means of said features, a vehicle for disabled individuals can be manoeuvred in a very confined space. In addition, motion perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the vehicle and also rotation about the vertical axis of the vehicle are possible.

2.1 This combination of features which is contained in independent claim 1 is neither known from the available prior art nor is it rendered obvious by it.

2.3 Claims 2-15 are dependent on claim 1 and therefore likewise meet the PCT requirements for novelty and inventive step.